



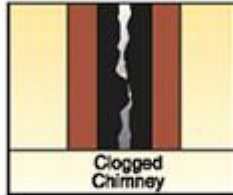
Carbon Monoxide

Protect Yourself from the Silent Killer

Often called a silent killer, CO is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels, such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil and methane, burn incompletely.



Car Left Running in Attached Garage



Clogged Chimney



Corroded or Disconnected Water Heater Vent Pipe



Gas or Wood-Burning Fireplace



Cracked or Loose Furnace Exchanger



Improperly Installed Kitchen Range or Vent



Operating a Grill Indoors or in Garage



Portable Kerosene or Gas Heaters

Any fuel-burning heating equipment (fireplaces, furnaces, water heaters, space or portable heaters), generators and chimneys can produce carbon monoxide. If these forms of heating are not properly ventilated CO poisoning can result.

According to the **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)** there is an increased risk of dying in a home fire during the winter season. December, January and February are generally the deadliest months for fire.

CO enters the body through breathing. CO poisoning can be confused with flu symptoms, food poisoning and other illnesses. Some symptoms include shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness, light headedness or headaches.

Everyone is at risk for CO poisoning, but infants, pregnant women and people with physical conditions that limit their ability to use oxygen can be more severely affected by lower levels of CO than healthy adults. High levels of CO can be fatal for anyone, causing death within minutes.

The goal of the **Lexington Fire Department** is to reduce the number of carbon monoxide incidents in **Fayette County**.

- ☑ Install CO alarms inside your home to provide early warning of accumulating CO.
- ☑ Have your heating equipment inspected by a professional every year before cold weather sets in.
- ☑ Use generators outdoors away from all doors and windows and vents.

**For more info on generator safety, see Generator Safety Sheet*



CO alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms. Know the difference between the sound of smoke alarms and CO alarms. Test CO alarms at least once a month. If your CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window and doors and call for help. Remain at the fresh air location until emergency personnel say it is okay. If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries or other trouble indicators.

For More Information

Contact:

Lexington Fire Department

Community Services Bureau

219 E. 3rd St. Lexington, KY 40508

859-231-5668

www.lexingtonky.gov/fire